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Title: Need to set up a Coast Guard Station at Hazira, Gujarat to strengthen maritime security.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD EAST): The two LNG Terminals which are operational in the country at present are located at Dahej and Hazira along the South Gujarat Coast. In addition, major industrial complexes such as Reliance Petrochemical Complex, Essar Steel Plant etc. are located near the Hazira coast. Likewise, in and around Dahej several major and critical industrial complexes are located. A Petroleum Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) is also coming up fast at Dahej. In view of the major concentration of criticial infrastructure and industrial projects around Hazira and Dahej, the entire south Gujarat coast stretching between Hazira and the Dahej has become very sensitive from the angle of security. In order to strengthen the Maritime security in the region, it would be necessary to have the presence of Coast Guard in this area. It is, therefore, important that a Coast Guard Station is set up at Hazira at the earliest. In fact, Collector, Surat has also selected a suitable land with water-front for locating the coast guard station and the same has been shown to the local officials of the coast guard. This issue was also raised in the meeting of the National Committee on Maritime Security help under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary during November 2010. The issue was once again discussed in the annual Chief Secretaries Conference at New Delhi on 4/5 February, 2011. But no progress has been made. I request that a coast guard station should be set up at the earliest.